

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A ~~heat-shrinkable jointing shrink tube~~ for an electrical power cable comprising:

_____ a sleeve ~~or other hollow article~~ having an electrically insulating inner layer, an electrically conductive outer layer, and between the inner and outer layers a thermoplastic mid-layer which can be softened by application of heat to the said sleeve ~~or article~~ to cause and/or permit dimensional recovery thereof, ~~characterised in that the said sleeve (10) is being~~ of tubular, one-piece construction and the outer layer and the thermoplastic mid-layers ~~act to hold out supporting the elastomeric electrically insulating inner layer, and the thickness of the outer layer having a thickness being~~ less than 50%, preferably less than 25%, more preferably less than 12.5% than that of the thermoplastic mid-layer.
2. (currently amended) ~~A jointing~~ The heat-shrink tube as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein the electrically insulating inner layer (11) is comprised of an elastomeric material.~~
3. (currently amended) ~~A jointing~~ The heat-shrink tube as claimed in Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2, characterised in that wherein the thermoplastic mid-layer (12) is sufficiently rigid to retain the electrically insulating inner layer (11) in a radially expanded state prior to recovery.~~

4. (currently amended) ~~A jointing~~ The heat-shrink tube as claimed in ~~any of Claims~~ Claim 1_a to 3, characterised in that ~~wherein~~ the thermoplastic mid-layer (12) comprises an electrically insulating layer.

5. (currently amended) ~~A jointing~~ The heat-shrink tube as claimed in ~~any of Claims~~ Claim 1_a to 5, characterised in that ~~wherein~~ the said sleeve (10) is an extruded sleeve.

6. (currently amended) ~~A jointing~~ The heat-shrink tube as claimed in ~~any of claims~~ Claim 1_a to 5, characterised in that ~~wherein~~ the said sleeve or hollow article is a moulded sleeve or hollow article.

7. (new) The heat-shrink tube as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the outer layer has a thickness less than 25% than that of the thermoplastic mid-layer.

8. (new) The heat-shrink tube as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the outer layer has a thickness less than 12.5% than that of the thermoplastic mid-layer.